

REMARKS

The Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for his examination of the present application and for the Examiner's interview of March 22, 2006 at which time the present remarks were discussed. Claims 1, 12 and 20 have been amended to require "... the movable support member being movable at a rate different than that of the shaft...." These clarifying amendments to claims 1, 12, and 20 reflect the inherent meaning of two elements being movable relative to each other.

35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The office action maintains the rejection of claims 1-25 as being anticipated under 35 USC §102(b) by the disclosure of US Patent No. 5,710,678 (Leuthold et al., hereinafter "Leuthold"). Amended claim 1 requires, in part, a movable support member that is movable at a rate different than that of the shaft.

Leuthold discloses a steel ball 160 fixed to the end of a shaft 20 (see Leuthold at col. 8, lines 12-13). Because the steel ball 160 of Leuthold is fixed to the end of shaft 20, the steel ball appears to move at the same rate as the shaft. Nowhere does Leuthold state that the steel ball 160 moves at a rate different than that of the shaft. The Examiner agreed with this.

Accordingly, because the Leuthold motor does not have a support member that is movable at a rate different than that of the shaft, such as that claimed by Claim 1, claim 1 is allowable over the prior art of record. In addition, dependent Claims 2-11 also are allowable for the same reasons.

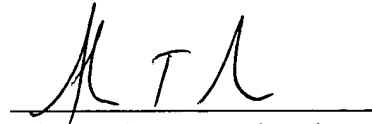
Claims 12-19 require that the movable support member is movable at a rate different than that of the shaft, and claims 20-25 require that the movable means is movable at a rate different than that of the shaft. Accordingly, claims 12-25 are allowable over the art of record for the same reasons as discussed above with regard to claim 1.

Consideration of the application and issuance of a notice of allowance are respectfully requested. Applicant believes that no extension of time is required;

however, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that the applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for an extension of time. If any additional fees are required for the timely consideration of this application, please charge deposit account number 19-4972.

If the Examiner has any questions as to the allowability of the currently pending claims or if there are any defects which need to be corrected, the Examiner is invited to speak to the Applicants' counsel at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A T A', is written over a horizontal line.

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